

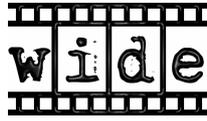
Presents



A POLICE ROMANCE

by Stéphanie DUVIVIER

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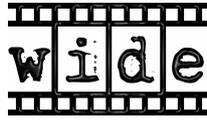
SYNOPSIS

Jamil Messaouden, a young police rookie, is assigned as a backup night duty officer to a godforsaken precinct house. His superior is Emilie Carange, a policewoman in her early 40s who has been hardened by the death of one of her men.

Jamil works with his instinct and he awakens the instincts of Emilie. She develops a desire for him that she tries to hide. Jamil receives an old Algerian grandmother whom only he can understand. She claims to have seen a gang of drug dealers operating in the area. Nobody believes her, except him.

Jamil draws Emilie into a gangland affair that is beyond their jurisdiction. Viard, the veteran narcotics officer, should normally be on the case, but he is too busy tormenting himself with efforts to stop drinking and spying on Fati, the beautiful bar-owner he is in love with.

The deeper they get mired in their nocturnal stakeouts, the greater Emilie's desire. The drug investigation gets out of hand as Emilie loses her self-control. She tries to suppress her desire, but it becomes even more violent and tyrannically exclusive.



Director's statement

The very first desire is instinctive; it comes from the subconscious then takes over everything. It becomes stronger if it is denied. It can be controlled if it is accepted as itself. It can also rule as an absolute master of the mind.

Through the story of Emilie Carange, a forty year-old lieutenant who does her best to make her colleagues forget that she is a woman and Jamil, a young rookie. Desire is a feeling that one can only feel, something so personal yet very universal, that lives in its quest.

Jamil works with instinct and awakes Emilie Carange's.

A Police Romance is the story of a gesture and a look, a sparkle that we call desire that resists to uniformism or uniform, to moral and hierarchy. It lies in Emilie's subconscious but quickly become something obvious that she cannot deny.

In this film, the look brings out the emotions, the camera is its witness.

The camera shows Emilie's paradox, by filming her gestures and her looks that betray her desire. Torn between her desire and drives trapped in her uniform and her position, she fights with them in pain and exaltation.

A Police Romance is a dramatic comedy in a police context viewed from a very personal point without any will for realism but with an demand of authenticity. All the characters fight their fear of death and for their will to survive. Night and the masculine atmosphere of police are gathered for characters to confront their desire.

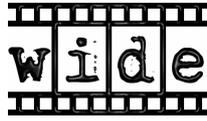
Hymne à la gazelle, my second short-length film made me want to talk again about repressed desire but in a different context and for the long length format. It also made me want to work again with comedians Marie-Laure Descoureaux and Abdelhafid Métalsi.

I have two cultural backgrounds: I am French and lived 18 years in Morocco. Choosing a French man with North African origins and a French woman as my main characters is not harmless.

I talk about this meeting between two different cultures because you learn more from someone by looking and desiring them than by focusing on their external social appearances.

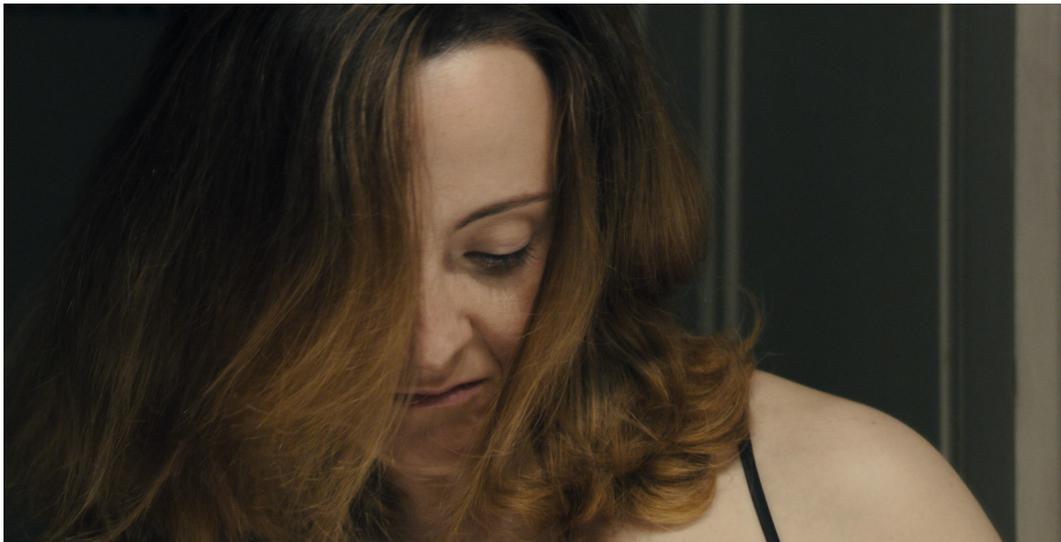
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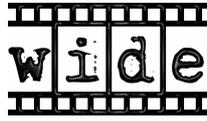


ARTISTIC DETAILS

ENGLISH TITLE:	A POLICE ROMANCE
ORIGINAL TITLE:	UN ROMAN POLICIER
ORIGINAL LANGUAGE:	French
COUNTRY:	France
GENRE:	Drama
YEAR:	2008
DURATION:	95 min
SCREENING FORMAT:	35 mm



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CREW DETAILS

PRODUCER: MAT FILMS
DIRECTOR: Stéphanie Duvivier
SCREENWRITER: Stéphanie Duvivier
CINEMATOGRAPHY: Denis Rouden
PRODUCTION DESIGNER: Mourad Saïdi
COSTUME DESIGNER: Marie Cesari
MUSIC: Pierre Aviat
SOUND: Maxime Gavaudan, Thomas Robert, Jean-Christophe Jule
EDITING: Saskia Berthod
CAST: Marie-Laure Descoureaux (Emilie Carange)
Abdelhafid Métalsi (Jamil Messaouden)
Théo Trifard (Louis)
Olivier Marchal (Viard)
Hiam Abbass (Fati)

